CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer system having a microphone inputting a sound signal and a storage unit storing data, comprising:

a selection part outputting a sound recording selection signal;

a signal processing part processing the sound signal input through the microphone;

a recording control part managing the input sound signal to be processed by the signal processing part, in response to the sound recording selection signal from the selection part and storing the processed sound data in the storage unit; and

a power supply part supplying power only to sound recording system components including the microphone, the storage unit, the signal processing part, and the recording control part, when the selection part outputs the sound recording selection signal and power is not supplied to the computer system.

2. The computer system according to claim 1, further comprising an interrupt generating part generating an interrupt signal, in response to the sound recording selection signal of the selection part; and

wherein the recording control part comprises:

an interrupt processing routine processing the interrupt signal from the interrupt generating part, and

a sound recording program called by the interrupt processing routine.

3. The computer system according to claim 2, further comprising a BIOS ROM storing the interrupt processing routine, and wherein the sound recording program is disposed either in the BIOS ROM or the storage unit.

4. The computer system according to claim 2, further comprising a BIOS ROM storing the interrupt processing routine, and wherein

the interrupt processing routine calls the sound recording program to be executed, in response to the sound recording selection signal of the selection part when the power is not supplied to the computer system.

5. The computer system according to claim 4, wherein the sound recording program executes under control of disc operating system (DOS).

6. The computer system according to claim 2, wherein the recording control part comprises:

a pre-determined driver based on an operating system, and

a random access memory (RAM) resident sound recording program called by the driver in response to the sound recording selection signal of the selection part after the computer system boots up.

7. The computer system according to claim 6, wherein the driver interfaces with the RAM-resident sound recording program via an application programming interface.

8. The computer system according to claim 6, wherein the RAM-resident sound recording program presents a user interface to select replaying the stored sound data in the storage unit, and the RAM-resident sound recording program reads the stored sound data from the storage unit, if replay is selected through the user interface, and controls the signal processing part to process the read sound data and output the processed sound data through a speaker.

9. A method of controlling a computer system having a microphone inputting a sound signal and a storage unit storing data, comprising,

selecting sound recording;

processing the input sound signal through the microphone according to the sound recording selecting and storing the processed sound data in the storage unit; and

supplying power to sound recording system components including the microphone and the storage unit, when sound recording is selected and power is not supplied to the computer system.

10. The control method of the computer system according to claim 9, further comprising;

generating an interrupt signal, in response to the sound recording selecting; and

calling a sound recording program according to the interrupt signal.

11. The control method of the computer system according to claim 10, wherein the calling of the sound recording program according to the interrupt signal is by a BIOS program, and the method further comprises storing the sound recording program in either a BIOS ROM or the storage unit.

12. The control method of the computer system according to claim 9, further comprising:

calling a driver based on an operating system, in response to the sound recording selecting; and

calling a random access memory (RAM) resident sound recording program by the driver.

13. The control method of the computer system according to claim 11, wherein disc operating system (DOS) controls the sound recording program.

14. The control method of the computer system according to claim 10, further comprising:

calling a pre-determined driver based on an operating system according to the interrupt signal; and

calling a random access memory (RAM) resident sound recording program by the driver, in response to the sound recording selecting after the computer system boots up.

15. The control method of the computer system according to claim 14, wherein the call of the RAM-resident sound recording program comprises interfacing the driver and the sound recording program via an application programming interface.

16. The control method of the computer system according to claim 9, further comprising,

selecting replay of the sound data stored in the storage unit;

reading the stored sound data from the storage unit to be signal processed; and

outputting the processed sound data through a speaker, in respond to the replay selecting.

17. A computer, comprising:

a hardware sound recording selector;

a power supply;

a hardware sound recording component receiving power from the power supply upon a sound recording selection from the hardware sound recording selector; and

a programmed computer processor receiving the power from the power supply upon the sound recording selection from the hardware sound recording selector and controlling the powered sound recording component to record sound signals, if the computer is powered off.

18. The computer of claim 17, wherein the hardware sound recording component comprises a microphone, a signal processor, and a data storage.

19. The computer of claim 17, wherein the programmed computer processor controls the powered sound recording component to record the sound signals in response to the sound recording selection from the hardware sound recording selector, if the computer is powered on.

20. The computer of claim 17, further comprising a software sound recording selector, and wherein the programmed computer processor controls the powered sound recording component to record sound signals in response to a sound recording selection from the software sound recording selector, if the computer is powered on.